

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An implant, in particular an intervertebral implant, comprising:

(A) two articulating parts (4; 5) each having a central axis (1; 26), each having a slide surface (6; 7) intersecting the central axes (1; 26) and each having an outermost end (14; 15) ~~which~~ that can be connected to a bone, ~~where~~ wherein:

(B) the slide surfaces (6; 7) are curved,

(C) the slide surfaces are mutually displaceable, and

(D) the second slide surface (5) is rotatable about two skewed axes of rotation (10; 11) relative to the first articulating part (4),

(E) the outermost ends (14; 15) of the articulating parts each comprise a connection element (2; 3), ~~where~~ wherein:

(F) a connecting element (2; 3) is fitted with an oval recess (37) coaxial with the central axis (1; 26) to receive the outermost end (14; 15) of the adjoining articulating part (4; 5);

~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

(G) the recess (37) is fitted with an axially terminal cavity (39) and ~~in that~~ the outermost end (14; 15) of the adjacent articulating part (4; 5) comprises a

widening (38) coaxial with the central axis (1; 26), said widening being insertable into the cavity (39), and

(H) the slide surfaces (6; 7) are saddle-shaped.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the slide surfaces (6; 7) each comprise a saddle point.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the axes of rotation (10; 11) cross each other at an angle between about 80 and to 100°.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 3, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the axes of rotation (10; 11) are spaced apart from one another a minimum distance A that is between about 0.1 to and 20 mm.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the distance A is between about 2 and to 20 mm.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 6, characterized in the claim 1, wherein the~~ slide surfaces (6; 7) each comprise a saddle-point (8; 9) and wherein ~~where~~, when the second articulating part (5) is rotated about either one of ~~each of~~ the axes of rotation (10; 11), the second saddle point (9) moves along an arc of circle (12; 14) concentric with said either one

of the the particular axis axes of rotation (10; 11).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 6~~, characterized in that, claim 1, wherein, in the an initial position, the slide surfaces (6; 7) are congruent at coaxial central axes (1; 26) of the articulating parts (4; 5).

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 7~~, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the connection elements (2; 3) are designed as cover plates (12; 13) ~~each with~~ having an axially outermost surface (16; 17) transverse to the central axes (1; 26).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one of the cover plates (12; 13) is integral with the adjoining articulating part (5).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~either of claims 8 and 9~~, characterized ~~one~~ claim 8, wherein one of the cover plates (12) is fitted with a guide (20) perpendicular to one of the central axis axes (1) and ~~in that~~ wherein the adjoining articulating part (4) comprises a rear end (14) insertable into the guide (20).

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~ The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 10~~, characterized in that claim 1, wherein one of the articulating parts (4; 5)

~~may be~~is rotated about its central axis (1; 26) in order to be assembled to the associated connection element (2; 3).

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 11~~, characterized in that claim 1, wherein one of the articulating parts (4; 5) ~~may be~~is displaced in a plane perpendicular to its central axis (1; 26) in order to be assembled to the associated connection element (2; 3).

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 12~~, characterized in that claim 1, wherein one of the articulating parts (4; 5) is ~~displaceable~~displaced in a plane perpendicular to its central axis (1; 26) in order to be assembled to the associated connection element (2; 3)

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 13~~, characterized in that claim 1, wherein one of the articulating parts (4; 5) is made of plastic.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Implant~~The implant as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 14~~, characterized in that claim 1, wherein at least one of the articulating parts (4; 5) is made of a ceramic.

Claims 16-18 (Canceled)